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French 70, and among the Russians 120. The disease death rate was 230 per thousand among the English, 341 among the French, and 263 among the Russians.

In the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, the Prussians reached the highest standard of protection against disease that any army had yet attained. The ratio of their battle casualties was 55 per thousand to a rate of death from disease of 25. The French, hampered by the quartermaster control of medical organization, in a demoralized, defeated army, suffered battle casualties of 68 per thousand and a rate of death from disease of 141. Among the French prisoners of war, smallpox broke out as a plague, about 14,000 cases occurring in Germany and about 25,000 in the interned army in Belgium. Smallpox followed as an epidemic in Germany, causing the death of 170,000 persons after the war.

Dr. Lambert reported that the death rate in our Civil War of killed and dying of wounds as 33 per thousand, the disease death rate as 65. In the Spanish War the death rate from battle was 5 and the death rate from disease 30.4 per thousand. The statistics of the American Expeditionary Forces, with an average strength of 975,716, reveal a rate of death from wounds in action of 31.2 per thousand and a death rate from disease of 11.2. Of those who died of disease, pneumonia claimed 9.1 per thousand.

In the Spanish-American War, 60.5 per cent. of all deaths were caused by typhoid, and in the present war 85 per cent. were caused by pneumonia. The pneumonia was mainly the result of the world-wide epidemic of influenza and the mortality of some American cities exceeded that of the camps. If the death-rate from pneumonia is subtracted the total death-rate from disease in the army at home and

abroad is only 2.2 which is apparently less than the death rate of the men in civil life.

Dr. Lambert maintained that the importance of the Medical Department of the Army is such that it should be adequately represented on the General staff. In the concluding part of his address he drew the logical deduction from the medical lessons of the war, that this nation, through its present medical knowledge, has within its grasp the power to control communicable, and hence preventable, diseases, and that there must be established a nation-wide controlling organization for this purpose, a National Department of Health.

JOSEPH BARRELL

THE science of geology has had great losses during the past year or so in the deaths of Grove Karl Gilbert, George F. Becker, William Bullock Clark, Henry Shaler Williams, Samuel Wendell Williston, and now a man of the greatest promise, Joseph Barrell. All of them have been leaders in geology or paleontology, and Barrell stood as high as the highest.

Joseph Barrell was born at New Providence, N. J., December 15, 1869, and died in New Haven, after one week of illness, on May 4, 1919. He leaves a wife and four sons. He was descended from George Barrell, a Puritan who migrated from Suffolk, England, and settled at Boston in 1637, and was named after his great-grandfather, a patriot and wealthy shipowner of Boston.

Barrell was thoroughly trained in engineering at Lehigh University, and later in geology and zoology at Yale. He took three degrees in course at Lehigh, B.S., E.M. and MS., and in 1916 that university gave him her doctorate of science. On this occasion President Drinker said: "Joseph Barrell—Distinguished scientist, a recognized



For Forty Years Professor of Cryptogamic Botany in Harvard University, by whose death the United States suffers the loss of one of its most distinguished men of science.



JOSEPH BARRELL

Late Professor of Structural Geology in Yale University.

leader in the study and teaching of geology, known and honored for his research and writings in the science of the earth in which the earth's history has been written by a mighty hand—Lehigh is proud of the record of this alumnus, whose life work has been so modestly yet so ably done, and through whose work his alma mater has been highly honored."

In 1893, Barrell began teaching geology at Lehigh, leaving to take his Ph.D. at Yale in 1900. Then he returned to Lehigh until he was called to Yale in 1903. In 1908 he was made professor of structural geology. Recognition of his work by his fellow workers in science came last April in the form of election to membership in the National Academy of Sciences, the highest honor that can come to any American man of science. He was also a member of the Sigma Xi and of Phi Beta Kappa, a fellow and councillor of the Geological Society of America, and a fellow of the Paleontological Society. He had traveled widely in North America and in southern Europe, studying in the field the interrelations and deformations of the geologic deposits and their wear and tear by the forces of nature.

Professor Barrell loved to work at the more difficult problems of theoretic geology, such as the genesis and age of the earth, isostasy, and the strength of the earth's crust. His studies on the principles of sedimentation and their climatic significance have received much attention. In paleontology, he presented evidence to show that the fishes arose in the waters of the lands, and that lungs were developed, under the most trying conditions of semiarid climates, out of air-bladders of fishes. Similarly, that man "is peculiarly a child of the earth and is born of her vicissitudes."

In childhood Barrell was thinking of things scientific, and was even then more fond of books of learning and travel than of fiction and poetry.

He was preeminently an observer and a student, and his recreation was scientific reading. Due to his training as an engineer, he always retained a liking for mechanics and mathematics, and through their aid loved to delve deeply into the broader problems of geology and biology. It was, in fact, these wider interests and the ability to work along so many lines that made him the deep and original thinker that he was. His colleagues at Yale will miss his stimulating originality. To them he was a second James D. Dana, and curiously both had a strikingly similar likeness.

C. S.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS

WE record with regret the death of Walter Gould Davis, for many years director of the Meteorological Bureau of Argentina; of Lawrence M. Lambe, of the paleontological staff of the Canadian Geological Survey, and of Edmund Weiss, director of the Vienna Observatory for thirty-two years.

THE John Fritz Medal of the four national societies of civil, mining, mechanical and electrical engineering has been awarded to Major General George W. Goethals, for his achievement in the building of the Panama Canal.

DR. W. W. CAMPBELL, director of Lick Observatory of the University of California, has been named head of an American delegation of astronomers that will attend the international meeting in Brussels in July.

DR. VITO VOLTERRA, professor of mathematical physics in the University of Rome, will deliver a series of six lectures on the Hitchcock Foundation at the University of California in August or September.

SIR ARTHUR NEWSHOLME, K.C.B., who is now in the United States has accepted for the academic year 1919-1920, the chair of hygiene in the new school of public health of the Johns Hopkins Medical School.